

## Sentence Structure:

# #1: NOTES

Definitions:

### Simple Sentence

### Compound Sentence

Mark each of the following as a simple (S) or compound sentence (C).

1. I think strawberries in the summer are a wonderful fruit.
2. Marissa wasn't interested in how she looked, but her mother was obsessed with her own appearance.
3. Jerry looked in the mirror everyday, and everyday he saw another gray hair.
4. She didn't want the guests to leave so early, yet she didn't want to keep them from leaving.
5. After a long, hard day, all Cristi could think of was a swim in her pool and a cold drink.

### Complex Sentence:

Mark each of the following Simple, Compound, or Complex:

1. Because I ate so much, I felt sick.
2. English is my favorite subject, and I love to write.
3. Oranges and bananas are great because they are healthy.
4. My paper is great which means I worked hard on it.
5. The team won the game because they played hard.

### Compound-Complex Sentence:

Mark each of the following Simple, Compound, Complex, or Compound-Complex:

1. I love to write poetry, but I hate doing math.
2. If he changes his mind, we shall know for sure that Joe has learned his lesson, but only time will tell.
3. Those clouds promise rain; we should hurry before we get caught in a flash flood.
4. Here is the money that I owe you, and I am happy to be free of debt.
5. Poetry, fiction, and narratives are my favorite types of writing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Conjunctive

**Subordinating Conjunctions**

Conjunctions join words, phrases, or clauses. **Subordinating conjunctions** join subordinate (dependent) clauses to main (independent clauses). Subordinate clauses contain a subject and predicate, but do not stand alone as a complete thought. Main clauses can stand alone. Subordinating conjunctions clarify meaning about time, possibility, comparison, location, and cause and effect. Common subordinating conjunctions include: *after, as, before, once, till, until, when, whenever, while, as if, as though, if, unless, whether, although, than, though, how, where, wherever, because, since, where, as, and why.*

- Examples:
- When you get here, we will begin immediately. (time)
  - If you do not call him by tonight, you will miss your chance. (possibility)
  - Although they look similar, ravens and crows are different. (comparison)
  - I will follow you wherever you go. (location)
  - Because rain was threatening, we postponed the barbecue. (cause/effect)

**Read the two simple sentences. Make them into one sentence by adding a subordinating conjunction to the sentence.**

Example: He saw her. He fell in love.  
When he saw her, he fell in love.

1. I whistle. I work.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. No records were kept. No evidence remains.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Mary had her first swimming lesson. She became more confident.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The howler monkey was timid. He took the banana from my hand.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Elaine walks her dog. All the dogs in the neighborhood bark.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. It is summer time. The grass grows faster.  
\_\_\_\_\_

# 3

Conjunctions

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Subordinating Conjunctions

Read the two simple sentences. Make them into one sentence by adding a subordinating conjunction to the sentence.

Examples:

Tourists go to Costa Rica to see the Arenal Volcano. It often has small eruptions.  
Tourists go to Costa Rica to see the Arenal Volcano because it often has small eruptions.  
Rhoda was gone. Her rival took advantage of the situation.  
While Rhoda was gone, her rival took advantage of the situation.

1. Rita did not get the lead. She chose not to be in the play.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Valerie couldn't go. Jim didn't want to go.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. We'll postpone our trip to Hong Kong. We will have more spending money.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Peggy was prettier. Dottie had a better personality.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. The runner-up can become Miss America. The winner abdicates the throne.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Give me some of your cookies. I'll give you some of my popcorn.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Janet will talk to Jim. He must apologize.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. We are going to New England. The leaves change.

\_\_\_\_\_

#4

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Clause \_\_\_\_\_

**Independent and Dependent Clauses**

Identify each clause as independent (IN) or dependent (D). Underline the subordinating conjunction or relative pronoun if there is one. No punctuation or capitalization is provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. she wears too much makeup
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. since she is under a lot of stress
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. until the entire project is complete
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. we were thirty minutes late for the appointment
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. because you're afraid
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. they felt more comfortable with me
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. if the turkey is not refrigerated
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. although the report was in plain view
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. which is in demand
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. who knows my brother
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. shadows are longer in the winter
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. it is homemade
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. when the plant is over watered
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. it was raining
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. because good records were not kept
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. until the light bulb was invented
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. that I wear to church
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Sal is arachnophobic

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#5

Clauses

**Independent and Subordinate Clauses**

An **independent clause** can stand alone as a sentence. A **subordinate or dependent clause** contains a subject and verb, but does not express a complete thought and can't stand alone as a sentence. The subordinate clause must be attached to the independent clause to complete the meaning. Subordinate clauses are begun with a subordinating conjunction such as *although, because, if, since, until, and when* or relative pronouns such as *who, which, and that*.

**Identify each clause as independent (IND) or subordinate (SUB).**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. although the cookies were low in fat
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. they were still high in calories
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Jack paid all his bills
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. after he received a second notice
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. who wants seats in the first balcony
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. the people must buy their tickets months in advance
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Mr. Stickney used his car phone to call a tow truck
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. after his car overheated
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. the icemaker is broken
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. although the refrigerator is new
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Marcia wears high heels every day
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. since she works downtown
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. until the road construction is completed
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. we have to leave thirty minutes earlier
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. since you don't have a flashlight

#4

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence Type:

**Complex Sentences**

A **complex sentence** contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. The independent clause is the more important of the two, and the dependent clause modifies it in some way. A clause introduced by a subordinating conjunction can appear within the independent clause as well as before or after it.

Examples: When we saw the repair estimate, we decided to buy a new car.  
We didn't think we could afford a new car, until we saw the cost of repairs.  
Because the cost of repairs was so high, we bought a new car.  
The girl sitting in the front who is driving the red convertible is my sister.

**Write CPX if the sentence is complex. Underline the independent clause once and underline the dependent clause(s) twice. Write *no* if the sentence is not complex.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The roof leaks whenever it rains.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. I told the ophthalmologist that I was seeing double since I got my new glasses.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Because the city faces a huge deficit, a new tax has been proposed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Lauren told me that the idea was hers because she thought of it first.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. When a player spikes the volleyball, he hits it sharply downward.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Charles is a perfectionist who rarely fails to spot an error.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The nickel has diminished in value since it can no longer buy a telephone call.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The dog barks incessantly whenever the mailman comes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Venice is accessible by boat or foot, but not by car.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Avery is one of those kids who always scores high on tests.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Whenever Vincent thinks of Vanessa who is his girlfriend, he smiles.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The artist painted lovely Venetian scenes in watercolor.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#

Sentence Types

Compound-Complex Sentences

**Compound-Complex sentences** combine two (or more) independent clauses and at least one dependent clause.

Example: Mark tried to do the algebra homework alone, but he realized that he needed some assistance after he had spent several hours on it.

Write **CC** if the sentence is compound-complex. Underline the independent clauses once. Underline the dependent clause(s) twice. Write *no* if the sentence is not compound-complex.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. We use whatever is donated, but we especially welcome toys.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The room that Carrie painted had been white, but she changed the color to pale blue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. You are the person who I want to see.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. She was going to the beach for the weekend until the tropical storm developed, so she decided to change her plans.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The masker who had worn the striking jester costume was in the contest, but he did not win first prize.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Although Bill was hesitant to run for mayor, his friends encouraged him, and he entered the race.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. What kind of car do you want to buy?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. While Valerie was shopping for souvenirs, Michael was snorkeling at the reef, and Monica was taking a guided tour of the island.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Colonel Mowry was reading in the study, and Professor Peach was napping in the conservatory, when the murder took place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The wine was superb and the food was excellent although the service was definitely lacking.

